St. Thomas More Church

1439 Springdale Road, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003 856-424-3212 • Fax: 856-424-2411 Web Site: http://stthomasmorenj.org/ • E-mail: sthomasmore@comcast.net

Mass Schedule

Welcoming Team

Daily Mass: Mon. - Fri. 9:00 AM in

the Chapel

First Saturdays: 9:00 ÅM in the Chapel

Sat. 4:30 PM Sun. 8:30 and 11:00 AM

Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel Mon.—Fri. 9:30 AM—12 Noon





Rite of Reconciliation **Saturday**

3:00—4:00 PM In the Chapel First Fridays after the 9:00 AM Mass

Father Edward Namiotka, Pastor Sister Ann Byrnes, RSM, Pastoral Associate for Life Long Faith Formation Sister Clare Sabini, FMIJ, Director of Religious Education Julie Linn, Music Ministry Marylee Garber, Parish Secretary Sheila Tartamosa, Pastoral Associate for Parish Administration

Shirley Kane



Send all bulletin announcements to: stmsecretary1439@gmail.com by 2:00pm Monday

DIRECTORY

Parish Trustees	Jeannine Mc Menamin		Worship	g: , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	056 404 0010
	Henry Glover		Altar Servers Church Environment	Sister Ann Byrnes Committee	856-424-3212
Christian Life/Education			Ch. Art Environment	Committee	
Bereavement	Staff	856- 424-3212	Eucharistic Ministers	Sr. Ann Byrnes	856-424-3212
Consolation Ministry	Ann Marie Lento	856- 344-7454	Lectors	Dan Miller/ Sr. Ann By	
	Jon Lisitski jonll	1@comcast.net	Linen Committee	Ann Vigrass	856-428-7217
Faith & Justice Team	Chris Baeckstrom	856-912-7078	Sacristans	Greta Tyrrell Dom Sacca	856-428-2412
Hospital Visitors	Staff & Euch. Ministers	856-424-3212		Dave Bongiovanni	
Intercessory Prayer	Ann Vigrass	856-428-7217		Joe Centonze	
Knights of Columbus	Brian Haughwout	609-458-7851	Ushers	Chico Febus	
Marriage Formation	Bob & Elizabeth Scarpa	856-795-1160	Social Development Bridge Groups	Joyce DeMichele	856-424-4008
Parish Rel. Ed. Prog.	Sr. Clare Sabini	856-424-3212	Bridge Groups	Barbara Cerquitella	856-795-7323
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Ann Vigrass	856- 428-7217	Parish Festival	Committee	856-424-3212
Respect Life	Staff		Women's Club	Barbara Cerquitella	856-795-7323
Rite of Ch. Init. Adults	Sister Ann Byrnes	856-424-3212		Lorraine Kennedy	856-489-0031
Rosary Ministry	Marian Kapischke	856-424-2053	Administration		
Small Christian Comm.	Sr. Ann Byrnes		House of Charity	Sheila Tartamosa	856-424-3212
Spiritual Retreats	John Galati	856-428-7073	Parish Finance Council	Robert Crawford	856-424-3212
St. Vincent de Paul	Chico Febus	856-424-3212	Parish Pastoral Council	Marie Enny	856-751-8893
Stewardship	Sheila Tartamosa	856-424-3212			

856-424-8022

PARISH MISSION & VISION STATEMENTS

Mission (Purpose)

Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we the Catholic Community of St. Thomas More respond to our call to holiness.

Vision (Goals)

Empowered by Baptism, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and formed by the Word of God and the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, we live out our Mission by working together:

- To structure prayerful, vibrant, participatory, Sunday worship experiences.
- To provide Life Long Faith formation for all age levels.
- To care for the young, the old, the sick, the hurting and the needy, both inside and outside our parish.
- To promote faith sharing, prayer, support, learning and listening to one another as a model for nourishing and sustaining our faith community.
- To welcome back, with hospitality, those who have left our faith community.

VISITATION AND ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the parish office, 424-3212, if a family member is seriously ill or facing/recovering from surgery and would like to see a priest or receive the Anointing of the Sick. Holy Communion is also available to those who are homebound on an ongoing basis.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please make arrangements for Baptism in advance through the parish office. Parents and godparents are required to attend a preparatory session.

MARRIAGE

Couples planning to marry will attend a marriage preparation program called Living in Love. Call office for appointment.

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process of formation for full initiation into the Catholic Church. It is open to those never Baptized; those baptized in another faith; and Catholics who have not received First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

For more information, please contact Sister Ann Byrnes, RSM, Pastoral Associate, 424-3212 ext. 104.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades One through Eight - Sunday 9:30 AM—10:45 AM

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

New members are welcome in our community of faith. Please call, 424-3212, or come to the parish

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Please submit hardcopy and/or e-mail by 2 p.m. Monday.

CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL

St. John Paul II Regional School - (856) 783-3088 Principal: Mrs. Helen Persing



HOPE

"Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope." 1st Peter 3:15

Are you **always** ready to give a reason for your hope? Every baptized person is asked to respond to this question. Faith graces us with hope in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Hope resides in the Cross. Our ultimate hope lies in life everlasting with our Father, and His Son, Jesus. How is the welcoming spirit of Christ intermingling with yours? How do you show the loving face of Christ and speak His hope-filled voice? Let us always enthusiastically respond and upliftingly demonstrate the reason for our hope to friends, family, and neighbors!



"If my people, who are called by My Name, **shall humble themselves**, and **pray**, and **seek** My Face, and **turn** from their wicked ways; **then** will I hear from heaven, and will **forgive** their sin, and I will **heal** their land." *2nd Chronicles 7:14*

Tuesday, August 15, 2023 is the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass schedule for the Holy Day is: 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM. Both Masses will be in the Church. Adoration will also be held in the church on Tuesday.





The collection for Sunday, August 6, 2023 was \$ 5995.65. The budgeted amount was \$8500. If you haven't the faith to believe that the tithe belongs to the Lord, neither can you have faith in

Him to meet your financial needs. Without that confidence in His supremacy, there could be no confidence in His ability to provide our needs. If you are trusting God for your eternity, surely you can trust Him for your temporal needs!

Stewardship Corner: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Stewards Trust

"He said, 'Come.' Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus." - MATTHEW 14:29

When we hear Jesus calling, do we respond as Stewards and trust that He knows what He's doing? If so, we are walking on water! When we say "yes" to Jesus, we feel the power of his presence in our lives. We can feel the freedom it gives us! Listen how Jesus is calling you to live the extraordinary life He has intended for you.

From the Pastor's Desk Public Worship and Private Devotion

Dear Parishioners,

Prayer is something that can be a very personal, intimate and private experience and yet it can also be part of a public act of worship. We can quietly make a visit to the Blessed Sacrament, pray the rosary while taking a walk or read the Bible before going to bed. Yet, when we attend Mass, pray the rosary together as a group in church or participate in Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, our prayer is very much *a public form of worship*.

The reason I bring this distinction up is to make a simple point. A public act of worship should not become confused with any individual private devotion. They should be two distinct entities. What I write here is not meant as a *criticism* but rather more of an *instruction* concerning the nature of certain forms of public worship—especially the Mass.

Some people have occasionally asked me why I do not regularly pray certain devotional prayers during Mass (perhaps after Holy Communion). My answer is simply that they are not officially part of the Roman Catholic Mass. I know that I do not have the authority to take it upon myself to try to add to or improve upon the Mass. The Mass is the <u>perfect</u> sacrifice of Jesus Christ and its celebration should be in accord with the **General Instructions of the Roman Missal**. As a priest, I should be faithful in celebrating Mass according to the official guidelines set out for us in the Roman Missal. (However, when I do lead people in additional prayers, a special blessing or an act of consecration, it is almost inevitably after Mass has finished, at the end of the homily or at the time of announcements.)

Does this mean that various devotional prayers should not be said? Of course not. There is a time and place for them but not necessarily in the Mass itself. Prayers can preferably be said before or after Mass, or at another time altogether. However, it must be kept in mind that by doing so we should never think that the Mass is somehow imperfect or incomplete in and of itself without adding something extra or additional to it. I state it again very clearly: the Mass is the perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ. We can do no better than that.

Far too often I have been asked to offer Masses that included various blessings, installations of ministries or officers, recognition of various achievements, etc. Sometimes the emphasis on the extra, added elements seemed to overshadow the importance of the Mass itself. This should really be avoided as much as possible.

Hopefully, this will help people to understand *why* I do *what* I do. I just try to be faithful to the intentions of the Church and to attempt to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in its purity and simplicity as it is intended.

Fr. Ed Namiotka, Pastor

Ministry Schedule for August 19/20

	Presider	Music	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server
4:30 PM	Fr. Namiotka	Len	Sr. Agnes	K. McFadden	
8:30 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Len	Sr. Diana	T. Smith	T. Johnson
11:00 AM	Fr. Namiotka	Marta Julie	M. Garber	B. Haughwout	S. Andino L. Vascisin



What does the Solemnity of the Assumption celebrate? On August 15, the Church celebrates the fact that Mary, the Mother of God, was assumed into

Heaven at the end of her earthly life.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 974) teaches, "The Most Blessed Virgin Mary, when the course of her earthly life was completed, was taken up body and soul into the glory of heaven, where she already shares in the glory of her Son's Resurrection, anticipating the resurrection of all members of his Body." "Mary's Assumption is an event that concerns us precisely because every human being is destined to die. But death is not the last word. Death – the mystery of the Virgin's Assumption assures us – is the passage to life, the encounter with Love. It is the passage to the eternal happiness in store for those who toil for truth and justice and do their utmost to follow Christ." – St. John Paul II

"The stupendous **Assumption of Mary** manifests and confirms the unity of the human person and reminds us that we are called to serve and glorify God with our whole being, body and soul. " – **Pope Francis**

Mary already experiences God's glory. She has reached the goal where we will one day all find ourselves. This is why Mary is today a sign of consolation and hope because if she, a creature like ourselves, is already there, we can also join her there. Let us fix our



gaze and our hearts on she who never abandoned her Son Jesus and who today enjoys the joy and glory of Heaven. And let us entrust ourselves to her so that she might help us to commit ourselves during our present life to reflect the Magnificat: to rejoice in God's mercy, to be attentive daily to all our brothers and sisters we meet along the way, beginning with the weakest and most vulnerable.



Eucharistic Adoration is held Monday—Friday in the Chapel after the 9:00 AM Mass. Come spend some time with your Lord.

Rowan Catholic Campus Ministry meets at the Newman House which is located just at the edge of Rowan University's Campus, at 1 Redmond Ave. Glassboro (behind Chickie's & Pete's). Join us every Wednesday night during the semester at 6pm for free dinner & social time followed by our weekly meeting at 7pm. Saturday Vigil Mass/Student Mass 4:30 PM; Sunday Masses 9 am & 11am Daily Mass 9am (Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri at St. Bridget University Parish 125 Church St. Glassboro (2 blocks from the Newman House).

Please note: the Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, August 24th and Friday, August 25th. We will have Eucharistic Adoration until Noon on both days.

Catholic Charities Diaper
Drive August 26/27
St. Thomas More Faith &
Justice Team is asking for
parishioner support in the form
of large size diapers(4,5,6).
There will be a table in the



Gathering Space where the diapers will be collected. Online donations can be made at: amzn.to/42h104V. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Religious Education Registration Registration for the 2023-2024 school year is ongoing. Forms may be found on the Parish website:

<u>stthomasmorenj.org.</u> On the left hand side, <u>click on</u> Religious Education Registration form.

A late fee of \$50 will be charged for all registration forms received after August 15th.



SATURDAY, AUGUST 12

4:30 PM Marty Blumberg r/b Joan Feinberg & family

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

8:30 AM Mary Jo Einstein r/b Franciscan Sisters 11:00 AM Teodoro Barrientos & Alicia Amador r/b family

MONDAY, AUGUST 14

9:00 AM people of the parish

9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15

9:00 AM People of the Parish

9:30—12noon Adoration in the Church 7:00 PM 25th Wedding Anniversary

of Jose & Ericka Andino

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

9:00 AM Mike Mahon r/b Sr. Ann Byrnes

9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17

9:00 AM Intentions of Anna Jean Votra r/b Greta

9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18

9:00 AM Intentions of Eliza Adriel Castillo

r/b Christina Castillo

9:30—12noon Adoration in the Chapel

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

4:30 PM Bill Kane & Rudy Peins r/b family

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20

8:30 AM Victor Vergara r/b Juanita Vasayllaje 11:00 AM Maria Deras r/b family



Please pray for the repose of the soul of:
Eleanor Reagan

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for August. For World Youth Day

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives

2023 APPEAL: "For the Life of the

World"

St. Thomas More Parish

Goal: \$89,700

Total to Date: \$43,995.00 —49%



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: THE

SICK... Kristina Acevedo, Caroline Bancheri, Jim Beaney, Jim Beaney, Jr., Pat Beaney, Joe Centonze, Ray Chuisano, Elva Clark, Grace Cobin,



Tammy Colon, Joseph Console, Marie Corcoran, Mary Cowan, Catherine Diana, Fr. George Donfurtang, Elizabeth Garber, Eileen Gerie, Eileen Goodwin, Marjorie Graham, Helen Kane, Marion Kapischke, Michael Kapischke, John B. Kennedy, John Lane, Bob Lento, Marie Manalo, Carter Oakley, Tina Petrone, Helen Protzman, John Ravena, Eleanor Rizzo, Dom Sacca, Carlos Santiago, Teddy Shaffer, Grace Sklencar, Joe Sklencar, Claire Spence, Dick Spence, Dale Strack, Stacia Strack, Michael Suralik, Pat Suralik, Ed Targonski, Sr., Roy Targonski, Ann Vigrass, Sarah Warner.

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED SERVICES...



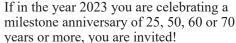
SPC Jordan Beckman, Captain Patrick J. Bones, USMC, Major Anthony R. Cosentino, USAF, TSgt.John P. DeYoung, Sam Houston, USN, Lt. Nicholas G. Iannuzzi, SSgt. Kris Knaup, Lt.

Christopher Mawn, Lt. Jacqueline A. McCabe, SN Christian Mele, PFC Sonny Morrison, Lt. Col. Louis J. Papa, Sisi Tyrrell, USMC, SPC Nicole Williams, and *all those serving our country*.

Looking Ahead! Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass,

September 24, 2023. 3:00PM Mass St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Absecon.

If in the year 2023 you are celebrating a



Registration forms are available in the Parish Office.



Eucharistic Revival (Quotes from Pope Francis)

"Nourishing ourselves of the Eucharistic Jesus also



means abandoning ourselves trustingly to him and allowing ourselves to be guided by him. It means welcoming Jesus in place of one's own "me". In this way the love freely received from Jesus in the Eucharistic communion, by

the work of the Holy Spirit, nourishes our love for God and for the brother sand sisters we meet along the daily journey. *Nourished by the Body of Christ, we become ever more concretely the mystical Body of Christ.*" {emphasis added} Angelus—June 18, 2017

Please note that we put the following week's Gospel passage in this space so you can prepare all week for Proclamation of the Gospel the following Sunday. Faith Sharing helps ordinary people connect their faith with everyday life experiences

Small Christian Community Faith Sharing

Excerpt from the Gospel for the Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 20, 2023- Matt. 15:21-28

At that time, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out, "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon." But Jesus did not say a word in answer to her. Jesus' disciples came and asked him, "Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us." He said in reply, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But the woman came and did Jesus homage, saying, "Lord, help me." He said in reply, "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour.

Commentary:

The account in this Gospel passage shows that while in the beginning the Good News was preached only to the Jews, there would come a time when all people would be included. Jesus tells his disciples here that his mission is to the "the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But at the end of Matthew's Gospel, the Risen Christ will command the apostles to "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations." This story is a turning point in Jesus' mission. The woman's humility and "great faith" were not to be denied. Faith in the Lord will bring both Jews and Gentiles to healing and salvation.

Questions for Reflection and Sharing:

- 1. What is God saying to me in this Gospel passage?
- 2. What word or phrase in this Gospel speaks to me?
- 3. What word or phrase in the Commentary resonates with me?

Pro-Life Corner:

- "A person is a person no matter how small." Dr. Seuss
- "Abortion is the ultimate exploitation of women." Alice Paul
- "Every life is a gift and has something unique to contribute to the world." Pope Francis
- "Any country that accepts abortion is the poorest of the poor"- St. Theresa of Calcutta

CELEBRATE GRANDPARENTS' DAY!



Sunday, September 10, 2023 11:00 AM Mass Reception follows in the Church Hall

Grandparents play a special role in the life of the family. They model for their grandchildren a life of Faith. Love and Service. All

grandparents are invited to the 11:00 AM Mass, Sunday, September 10, 2023 to receive a special blessing. Grandchildren are invited if they can attend.

Call or email the Parish Office if you plan to attend: 856 -424-3212 or sthomasmore@comcast.net.



Care of our Common Home

"The extreme weather which ha affected many millions of people in July is unfortunately the harsh reality of climate change and a foretaste of the future, "said World Meteorological Organization's Secretary-General Prof. Petteri Taalas. "The need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions is more urgent than ever before. Climate action is not a luxury but a must."

Due to an ill-considered exploitation of nature, humanity runs the risk of destroying and becomes in turn a victim of this degradation." Pope Paul VI, 1971.

St. Mary Church Filipino Apostolate Tagalog Mass Sunday, August 27, 2023 3:00 PM Rosary 3:30 PM Mass in Church

The 2024 Mass Book is now open to schedule your Mass intentions for the coming year.

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